



Dr. Barbara Natalizio

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Barbara J. Natalizio, Ph.D. is a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow serving in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Graduate Education at the National Science Foundation. Prior to the AAAS fellowship, Dr. Natalizio was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center where her research focused on investigating messenger RNA export regulation and its effects on eukaryotic gene expression. There she became interested in issues related to career transitions for scientists as a member of the Executive Committee of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Postdoctoral Association. As a member of the Board of Directors of the National Postdoctoral Association, Dr. Natalizio advocates for the enrichment of the postdoctoral experience by supporting initiatives that provide professional development opportunities. Moreover, her transformative training at the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science inspired her to help scientists become more effective communicators. Dr. Natalizio is passionate about channeling this enthusiasm for communicating with non-scientific audiences to advocate for improved science policy. She received her bachelor's degree in biochemistry and history from Montclair State University and her Ph.D. in molecular genetics and microbiology from Duke University.